



When Seconds Count, StormReady Communities Are Prepared

What is StormReady?

To help Americans guard against the ravages of severe weather, NOAA's National Weather Service has designed StormReady, a program aimed at preparing cities, counties and towns across the nation with the communication and safety tools necessary to save lives and property. In a nutshell, StormReady establishes an industry standard for severe weather preparedness and communication.

How did StormReady begin?

StormReady was created in 1998 by the National Weather Service's Tulsa, Oklahoma forecast office as a way to provide clear-cut advice to city leaders and emergency managers to improve their local hazardous weather operations.

What are the StormReady eligibility guidelines?

Guidelines are based on population, and include:

- Establish a 24-hour warning point and emergency operations center
- Have more than one method of receiving severe weather information and alerting the public
- Create a system that monitors local weather conditions
- Promote the significance of public readiness through community seminars
- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes training severe weather spotters and holding exercises

How does our community apply for StormReady?

The appropriate community or county official will complete a StormReady application based on population. (The application is available online at www.stormready.noaa.gov.) The application is submitted to the local National Weather Service office, where it will be reviewed by the local StormReady board, comprised of representatives from the National Weather Service and local and state emergency management.

How is a StormReady community recognized?

A local advisory board, comprised of National Weather Service officials and state and local emergency managers, review your application. A site visit is conducted to verify the application, and the advisory board then either approves the recognition or recommends improvements.

Once officially recognized, a ceremony will be held in your community, commending the preparedness efforts of your civic leaders and emergency responders. You will receive a formal notification letter and certificate from your local NW S Office, plus two StormReady signs suitable for display in public buildings, your EOC, or even along roadways. You'll also join the growing list of recognized StormReady communities on our national web site.



How long is StormReady recognition valid?

StormReady recognition is valid for 3 years, with a 3-year extension available.



Businesses, schools, and other non-governmental entities often establish severe weather safety plans and actively promote severe weather safety awareness activities. An entity that promotes the principles and guidelines of the StormReady program may be eligible to become a StormReady "Supporter." Examples of potential StormReady Supporters might include, but are not limited to businesses, hospitals, shopping centers and malls, schools, and nuclear power plants.

What are the StormReady Supporter eligibility guidelines?

Guidelines are based on population, and include:

- Develop a formal hazardous weather plan, which includes severe weather drills
- Monitor local weather conditions
- Have more than one method of receiving severe weather information and alerting employees
- Promote the significance of severe weather readiness through policies and training
- Endorsement by local emergency management official(s)

How does my business apply?

The appropriate safety or leadership official will complete a StormReady application, completing all of the parts applicable to the business. The application is available online at www.stormready.noaa.gov. The application is submitted to the local National Weather Service office, where it will be reviewed by the local StormReady board, comprised of representatives from the National Weather Service and local and state emergency management.

How is a StormReady Supporter recognized?

Recognized StormReady Supporters will receive a StormReady Supporter certificate signed by the Meteorologist in Charge of the local NWS Office and will be listed on the NWS StormReady Web page.



Find out more:

Contact your local National Weather Service Warning Coordination Meteorologist (WCM) or local Emergency Manager for further information about StormReady or the StormReady Supporter program.

National Weather Service Quad Cities

Serving parts of eastern Iowa, western Illinois, and extreme northeast Missouri

Donna Dubberke, Warning Coordination Meteorologist

donna.dubberke@noaa.gov

(563) 386-3976 x726

On the web:

StormReady.....www.stormready.noaa.gov

National Weather Servicewww.weather.gov

National Weather Service Quad Citieswww.weather.gov/quadcities